

press Iran on this case at every opportunity and at every level—something I think the U.S. Government is beginning to do. Also, this resolution thanks the Swiss for their continued assistance in the case. It furthermore expresses appreciation for the efforts of Iranian officials who have ensured the safety of the family during their visit of December of last year. This resolution also expresses sympathy to the Levinson family during this trying period. This is a wife and seven children of a missing former FBI agent in the country of Iran, missing now since the early part of 2007.

In this year, on July 28, the President of Iran stated during an interview with NBC that Iranian officials were willing to cooperate with the FBI on this case. Why is the FBI involved? The FBI is involved because he is a former FBI agent. This resolution calls upon the Tehran government to make this meeting happen as soon as possible to discuss the evidence the Iranians have uncovered about Mr. Levinson's disappearance.

Now, I wish to underscore that because on July 28 of this year the President of Iran stated in an NBC interview that Iranian officials were willing to cooperate with the FBI on this case. They have not.

I wish to be blunt. We obviously have serious disagreements with Iran on its nuclear program and a whole range of other issues. I haven't hesitated over the years, as a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, the Senate Intelligence Committee, and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, to express my opposition to a number of Tehran's policies—and I will continue to press for change in Iran's positions and activities—but I am calling on the Government of Iran out of human compassion and humanitarian assistance to a family of a wife and seven children to come forth and cooperate in trying to find and get evidence of the whereabouts of Bob Levinson.

We want to see an Iran where individuals are respected, not locked up in Evin Prison—we want to see an Iran that is respected—for signing a petition calling for women's rights. We want to see an Iran that champions the Middle East peace process rather than supporting terrorist groups such as Hamas and Hezbollah. We want to see an Iran whose leaders do not make despicable threats to “wipe Israel off the map.”

We clearly have our differences with Iran, and those differences, especially under a new administration, can start to be bridged with Iran stepping forth with discussions regarding the safe return of an American citizen whose family desperately wishes to be reunited with him, that American citizen being former FBI agent Bob Levinson.

So this resolution calls upon the U.S. Government and our friends and allies to engage with Iranian officials to raise Mr. Levinson's case at every opportunity and at every level. I understand

many of our allies already have raised Mr. Levinson's case on our behalf, and I wish to encourage them to continue to do so. This Senator has done it as well, both publicly and privately, and I will continue to do so.

The resolution I have filed additionally commends the Swiss for their ongoing assistance to the U.S. Government and to the family of the Levinsons. The assistance of the Swiss Ambassador and his staff at the American Interests Section in Tehran was essential during Mrs. Levinson's visits in the past, and will be, I think, to her visits in the future.

I wish to express—the word “sympathy” does not conjure up what I am trying to express to Christine Levinson and to her family. No one should have to experience what they have been through. I have met with her on a number of occasions. She is a loving mother. She is clearly an eloquent advocate. She is a tough fighter on behalf of her husband. She is relentless. She is not going to give up, nor should she. I deem it a great privilege that I may in some little way try to assist her and her family.

I want to bring more of our colleagues into this issue of trying to find Bob Levinson in Iran and get the world's attention focused on this missing American. I am going to ask Mrs. Levinson to come back in January when we reconvene, and I want some of our colleagues to meet her.

Remember, Senators, that as representatives of the American people, that means we have to help individual American citizens in distress. This is clearly a family who is in distress. We cannot—and I believe I can speak for the Senate—we are not going to forget Bob Levinson and his family.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5696. Mr. MARTINEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6867, to provide for additional emergency unemployment compensation; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5697. Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. MARTINEZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6867, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5698. Mr. DORGAN (for Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. DORGAN)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3663, to require the Federal Communications Commission to provide for a short-term extension of the analog television broadcasting authority so that essential public safety announcements and digital television transition information may be provided for a short time during the transition to digital television broadcasting.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5696. Mr. MARTINEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6867, to provide for additional emergency unemployment compensation; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF LOAN LIMIT INCREASE.

(a) FANNIE MAE AND FREDDIE MAC.—Section 201(a) of the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-185, 122 Stat. 619) is amended by striking “December 31, 2008” and inserting “December 31, 2009”.

(b) FHA LOANS.—Section 202(a) of the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-185, 122 Stat. 620) is amended by striking “December 31, 2008” and inserting “December 31, 2009”.

SA 5697. Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. MARTINEZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6867, to provide for additional emergency unemployment compensation; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . MANDATORY LOAN GUARANTEES AND CREDIT ENHANCEMENT EFFORTS.

Section 109(a) of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (division A of Public Law 110-343) is amended—

(1) by striking the last sentence;

(2) by striking “To the extent” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) LOAN GUARANTEES AND CREDIT ENHANCEMENTS REQUIRED.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to actions required under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall, not later than 15 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, designate the Corporation, on a reimbursable basis, to design and carry out a plan to use loan guarantees or credit enhancements to facilitate loan modifications to prevent avoidable foreclosures.

“(B) AGGREGATE AMOUNTS.—The Secretary shall make and fund guarantees and credit enhancements developed under this paragraph in amounts of—

“(i) \$10,000,000,000 in aggregate estimated subsidy costs, and amounts specified under paragraph (2) of section 115(a) shall be reduced by the subsidy cost of any guarantees or credit enhancements funded by the Secretary under this clause; and

“(ii) an additional \$15,000,000,000, in aggregate estimated subsidy costs, and amounts specified under paragraph (3) of section 115(a) shall be reduced by the subsidy cost of any guarantees or credit enhancements funded by the Secretary under this clause.

“(C) CONTRACTING AUTHORITY.—In carrying out this paragraph, the Corporation may use its contracting authority under section 9 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act.”.

SA 5698. Mr. DORGAN (for Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. DORGAN)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3663, to require the Federal Communications Commission to provide for a short-term extension of the analog television broadcasting authority so that essential public safety announcements and digital television transition information may be provided for a short time during the transition to digital television broadcasting; as follows:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Short-term Analog Flash and Emergency Readiness Act”.